

We claim:

1. A method for inhibiting tumor growth comprising administering to a subject with a laminin 5-secreting tumor an amount effective to inhibit tumor growth of an antibody that binds to one or more epitopes in domain III of laminin 5 γ 2 chain.
- 5 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the tumor is a carcinoma.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises treating the patient with surgery, chemotherapy, and/or radiation therapy.
5. An isolated antibody that binds to one or one or more epitopes of domain III of the
10 laminin 5 γ 2 chain but does not bind to epitopes within the amino acid sequence of SEQ
ID NOS: 9 and 10.
6. The isolated antibody of claim 5 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the isolated antibody of claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 15 8. Isolated hybridoma cells that express the monoclonal antibody of claim 6.
9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody that binds to one or more epitopes in domain III of laminin 5 γ 2 chain and one or more further anti-tumor agent.
10. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 9 wherein the further anti-tumor agent is a chemotherapeutic.
- 20 11. A method for inhibiting tumor growth and/or metastasis comprising administering to a subject with a laminin 5-secreting tumor an amount effective to inhibit tumor growth and/or metastasis of the antibody of claim 5.
12. The method of claim 11 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
13. The method of claim 11 wherein the tumor is a carcinoma.
- 25 14. The method of claim 11, wherein the method further comprises treating the patient with surgery, chemotherapy, and/or radiation therapy.
15. A method for detecting the presence of invasive cells in a tissue comprising contacting the tissue sample with one or more monoclonal antibody according to claim 5 to form an immunocomplex, and detecting formation of any immunocomplex, wherein the
30 formation of the immunocomplex correlates with the presence of invasive cells in the tissue.